(a) in what year was the annual quantity of tobacco imports into Vellarappilli fixed for the first time; what was the quantity so fixed;

(b) has the quantity been subsequently increased from time to time; if so, what was the increase so sanctioned?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—(a) It has not been possible to get accurate information on the point. The oldest file on the subject shows that in 1084 the quantity allowed to Vellarappilli was 50 candies.

(b) Yes. In 1087 it was fixed at 91·02 candies per year. This was raised to 104·34 candies in 1093.

Mr. Ekkanda Warriar.— May I know why the Government fixed the quantity of tobacco?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—It has to be fixed with the consent of the Travancore Government. The quantity was found insufficient and so that has to be raised.

196. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) what was the population of Vellarappilli each time an increase of tobacco imports into that village was sanctioned?

(b) when was the last increase sanctioned; and what was the population of Vellarappilli in that year;

(c) since then, has the population of the village increased; if so, to what extent?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—

(a)

1084	12,089
1087	13,272
1093	do

(b) In 1093—the population then was 13,272.

(c) Yes. It is now 16,932.

197. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are not aware that the people of Vellarappilli require more tobacco than is sanctioned to be imported at present;

(b) whether they have at any time received any petition from the people of the above village, pointing out the insufficiency of the quantity of tobacco allowed to be imported into the village at present?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—(a) No.

(b) A petition dated 24th August 1932 from E. M. Kuriath tobacco licensee, was received; a copy of which is appended. (*Appendix III.*)

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ളിലും ഹാജരായിട്ടില്ലാത്തതിനാൽ, പഞ്ചായത്തു നിയമം 9 ൻ-ാം വകുപ്പുപ്രകാരം ഈ വിവരത്തിനു രജിസ്ട്രാർ അവർകൾക്കു റിപ്പോർട്ട് ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണെന്നു തീരുമാനിച്ചു.

(True-copy).

APPENDIX III.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 197).

Copy of petition dated 24th August 1932, from E. M. Kuriath, Tobacco contractor, Vellarappilli.—

"The quantity of tobacco now allowed to the shops of Vellarappilli range is quite inadequate considering the population of the place and the requirements of the locality.

The Government used to sanction an increase in the quantity of salt and tobacco allowed to each range after the Census figures are published proportionate to the increase in the population of each range. This was done after last Census operations were over.

But this time, even though the population of Vellarappilli has increased considerably the department was pleased, I am told, to recommend an enhancement only in the quantity of salt supplied and not in that of tobacco. The Government has accordingly sanctioned an increase in the quantity of salt alone. I was under the impression that, as usual, an increase in the quantity of tobacco also would be recommended for and sanctioned.

The present supply of tobacco is absolutely insufficient and my shops are really suffering for want of tobacco to meet the requirement of the people over there. As such I am put to great loss also.

An increase, in proportion to the increase in the population of the place in the quantity of tobacco allowed to Vellarappilli may, therefore, be sanctioned just as it was done in the case of salt, for which act of kindness I shall be very thankful and the people of the locality will ever feel grateful."

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